

ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

5 A user interactive apparatus for searching a universe
of financial instruments such as stocks, bonds, funds and
the like. The search is conducted with a filtering process
that involves performing n filter passes of the universe
with a computer system having a viewing screen, input means
and an investment selection program. The filter condition
10 for each filter is from a plurality of parameter limiters
and a plurality of investment parameters. The pluralities
of criteria and of parameters are presented in one area of
the viewing screen. The program enables a user to select
the filter condition for the i^{th} filter pass from the
15 displayed criteria and parameters by operation of the input
means. A histogram is then displayed in a second area of
the viewing screen as an aid to the user in making filter
condition selections. The histogram shows the population of
financial instruments in different frequency of occurrence
20 categories for the user selections. The i^{th} filter pass is
execute d upon a command provided in response to user
operation of the input means. The process is repeated until
the n^{th} filter pass has been performed.